

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please **WITHDRAW** claims 6, 8 10, 14 and 15.

A copy of all pending claims and a status of the claims is provided below.

1. (Previously Amended) A sanding machine having oscillation drive means for setting an abrasive in an oscillating sanding movement, comprising an activating device having a multiplicity of activating regions triggered in such a way that various regions of the abrasive are alternately activated independently of the oscillating sanding movement.
2. (Previously Amended) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activating regions are brought into use asynchronously relative to the oscillating sanding movement.
3. (Previously Amended) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activating device can be moved transversely to a feed direction of the workpiece to be sanded.
4. (Previously Amended) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activating regions of the activating device are raised lamellae arranged on a carrier.
5. (Previously Amended) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 4, wherein the

carrier is a plate which can be moved in a reciprocating manner in a sanding plane transversely to a feed direction of the workpiece.

6. (Withdrawn) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 4, wherein the carrier has endless conveying means revolving transversely to a feed direction of the workpiece.

7. (Previously Amended) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activating regions extend in a form of raised lamellae on a sanding plane diagonally, in a V shape, in a W shape, in a curved manner or so as to be offset one behind the other.

8. (Withdrawn) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a pressure device having at least one pressure shoe which can be triggered and is arranged between the activating regions of the activating device and the abrasive.

9. (Previously Amended) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the abrasive is mounted on a retaining device and the retaining device is mounted with the oscillation drive means on a sanding machine frame in order to set the retaining device, relative to a sanding machine frame, in a sanding movement oscillating parallel to a sanding plane, which is defined by a sanding surface of the abrasive, wherein the activating device is coupled to the sanding machine frame and is uncoupled from the retaining device at least in one direction of the sanding plane.

10. (Withdrawn) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising, a plurality of activating devices arranged one behind the other in the feed direction.

11. (Previously Amended) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 9 wherein the oscillation drive means have rotatably driven eccentric shafts which extend vertically to a sanding plane between the sanding machine frame and the retaining device.

12. (Previously Amended) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 11, further comprising at least one of the eccentric shafts is displaceably mounted in one direction of a sanding plane.

13. (Previously Amended) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the abrasive is a sanding sheet interchangeably connected to the retaining device.

14. (Withdrawn) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activating device has flexible conduits for receiving a medium, and pressure control means are connected to the conduits, medium located in the conduits being pressurized in a pulsating manner by the pressure control means.

15. (Withdrawn) The sanding machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the abrasive is a revolving endless sanding belt.

P26812.A01

Serial No.: 10/525,041

16. (Currently Amended) A method of sanding a workpiece using a sanding machine as claimed [[one]] in claim 1 by oscillating sanding movements, comprising alternate activation of various activating regions of the abrasive independently of the oscillating sanding movement.